Title :   SDK/Demo software
User manual

Document number :

Issue :   1.0.4

Classification :

Customer :

Date :   26/05/2015

	Name and Function	Signature	Date
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Reviewed by :			
Approved by :			

Revision history

Issue	Date	Para	Details
0.9.0	23/12/2013		Initial release
1.0.0	20/03/2014		New soft release 1.0.0
1.0.1	11/04/2014		New bias/flat loader software
1.0.4	22/05/2015		New shutter settings

Internal diffusion

Issue	Date	Name

External diffusion

Issue	Date	Name	Affiliation

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1. Applicable documents

Doc	Revision	Name	Author
	1.0.1	SDK/Demo software Installation Manual	LEMARCHAND Stephane
		OCAM2 User Manual rev d.pdf	FirstLightImaging
		User Manual Ocam2 S -2000	FirstLightImaging

2. Reference documents

Doc	Revision	Name	Author

3. OCAM2 SDK/Demonstration software user manual

3.1. Requirement

The PC includes a matrox or a dalsa teledyne camera link acquisition board.
For linux, only matrox board can be used.
The matrox imaging MIL10 or Dalsa Teledyne Sapera lt and ocam software have been installed as specified in the installation manual.

3.2. Introduction

The ocam software is a demonstration software used to show images from ocam2 camera.
In addition the source code is available and can be used as example to build a custom system.

The software consists of 2 parts: a sdk library and a gui(graphical user interface).
The purpose of sdk is mainly to provide an easy way to descramble raw image received from ocam2 camera. But it also provide camera characteristics definitions and some camera related functions. The gui can be used to directly watch ocam2 images and configure the camera.
An additionnal software ocambias can be used to compute bias/flat image from raw capture and load them in the camera.
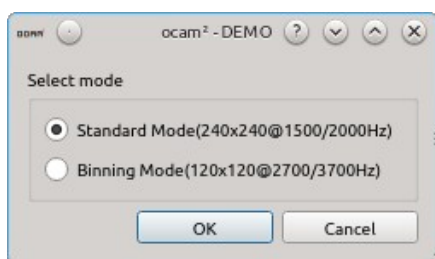
3.3. SDK

The API is fully documented in the "sdk installation dir"/doc directory. A simple example is provided in the demo directory.
In the example, an arbitrarily filled buffer is used as raw image.
In real life, it should be an ocam2 grabbed raw image using any grabber.
The sdk is grabber agnostic, it provides only descrambling function and some
constants which can be useful for a custom design.
Demo examples are also provided for bias/flat image loading.
The code is written in C so it can easily be ported to any platform.
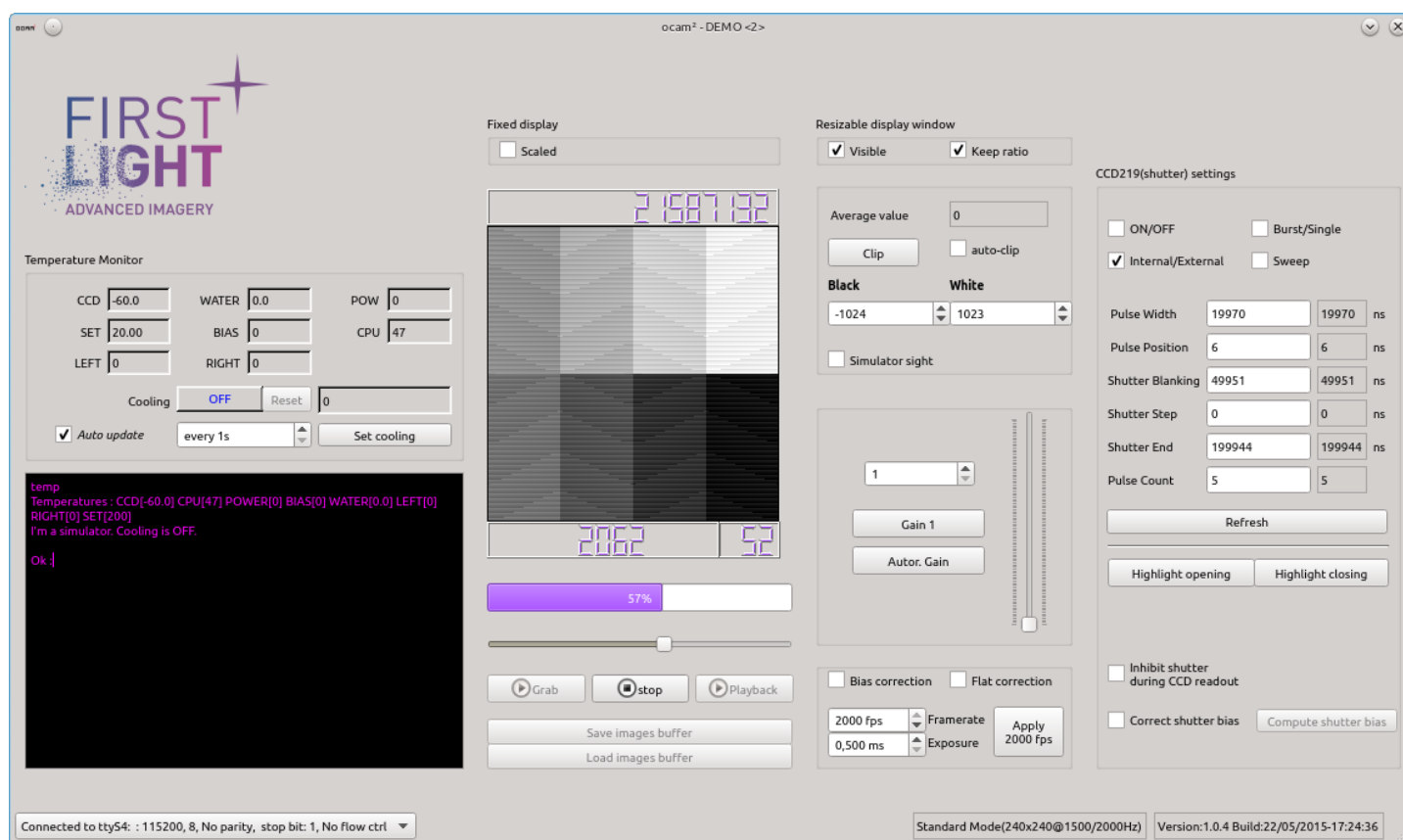
3.4. GUI OCAM DEMO

3.4.1. Common functionalities

The graphical user interface soft uses the matrox MIL10 or Dalsa/Teledyne sapera library to grab ocam2 raw images and uses the sdk library to descramble them.

When you start the application, first, you have to choose the mode: **normal** or **binning**.
To change the mode, you have to restart the application.

Then the main window will open.

If you put the cursor on the different check-boxes and buttons, tool-tips will provide a short explanation.
Nevertheless, you will find below more detailed explanations.

To start grabbing image press **Grab** button.
To stop grabbing press **stop**.
To play images in the buffer press **Playback**.
Using the slider, you can move in the acquisition buffer to choose which images you want to replay.

The top counter display the **frame number**, the bottom left the **acquisition rate**, the bottom right the **display rate**.

The **scaled** option is useful mainly in binning mode. If checked the camera images fit the display screen. When **scaled** is unchecked, there is a one to one mapping between screen and camera pixel.

To save the acquired image use the **save image buffer** button. A new window will pop up.
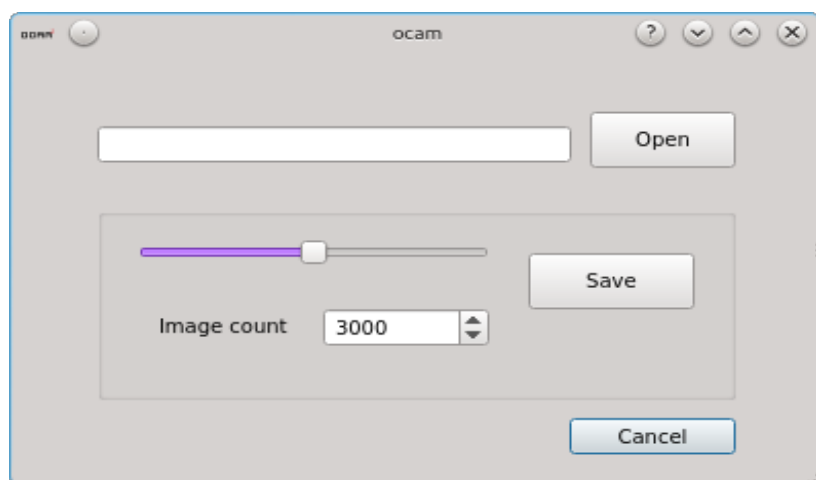
Then choose a filename, select the number of frame you want to save and press save.

The previously saved images buffer can be reloaded using **load images buffer** button.

On the left, a terminal is connected to the camera link serial port.
Ocam2 commands can be written directly in the terminal or you can use the various check box, scrollbar and buttons to send command to the camera.
However you could see the result of the command printed in the terminal except
for command sent using auto update.

When you check **auto update** the temperatures are fetched from the camera periodically and displayed in the various temperature box.

You can manage camera cooling using the **set cooling** button. A new window will pop up.
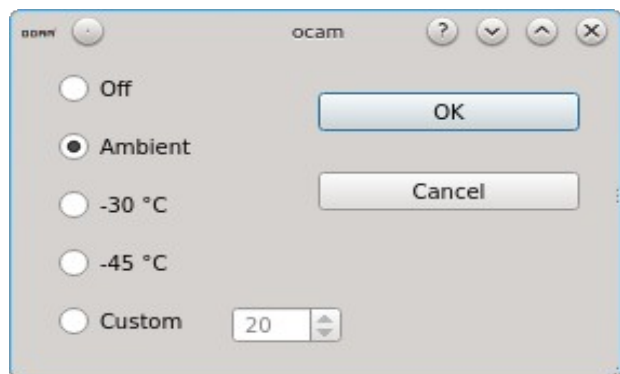
Select the target temperature
and press OK.

The main display, for the acquired frames, is in the center of the main window.
However, an additional flying, resize-able window can also be used. This window can be seen if, in the group "re-sizable display window", **visible** is checked.
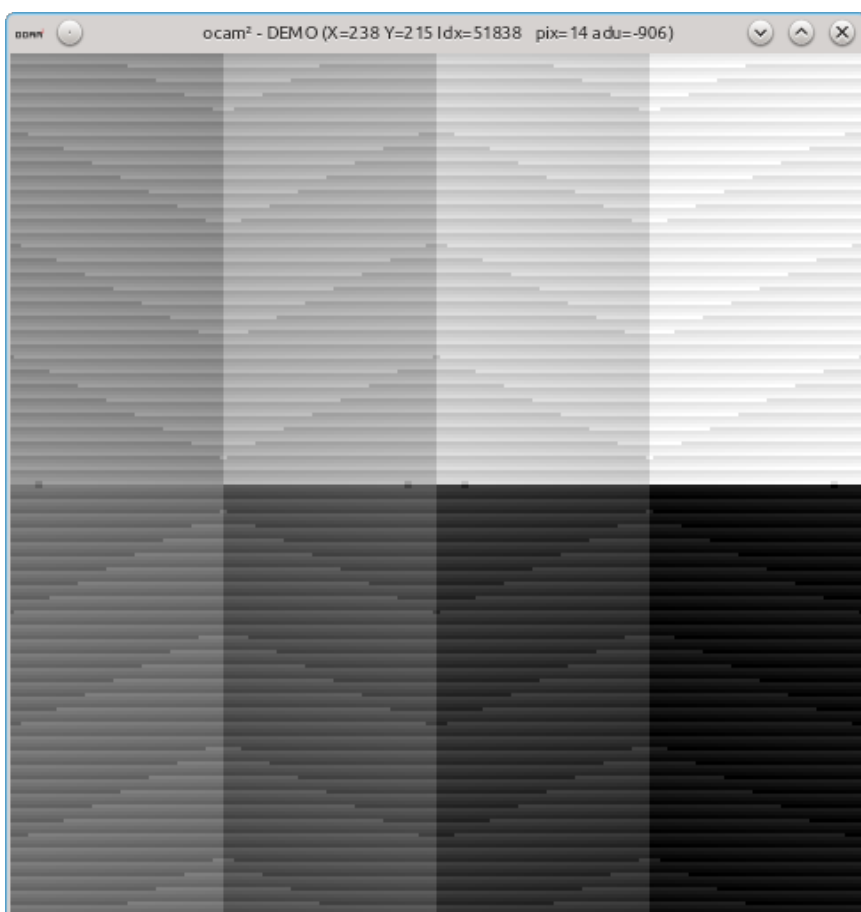
If **keep ratio** is checked, this window will always be square.
In the window title, the position and value for the pixel below the pointer are provided.

The gray-scale image range sent by the camera is mapped to the screen gray-scale range using the **white** and **black** points definition. If **clip** button is pressed , the black and white point are filled with the max black and white value found in the current image.
If **auto-clip** is checked, the operation is done continuously.
The simulator sigh check-box is used to map the full camera image range to the screen range using false color. It is used to see the full simulator pattern.

The gain can be adjusted using the vertical slider.
The **author gain** button is used to reset the protection against over-illumination.

Below , **bias** and **flat** correction can be enabled/disabled,

The time exposure can be adjusted using **exposure** or **framerate** box, the matching frame per second is displayed on the button to its right. This button is an "apply" button, the value is sent to camera only when it is pressed.

Below, on the status bar, you can see 3 informations:
On the left, the serial port to which the software is connected.
On the middle, the current mode (normal or binning).
On the right, the version number and build date.

If you want to connect the camera link serial port to an other tool, you can click on the serial port status and choose disconnect.

3.4.2. Ccd219 specific functionalities

CCD219 offers an integral electronic shutter that offers excellent occultation with extreme temporal precision.

On the right side, the additional settings are available for CCD219 configuration only.
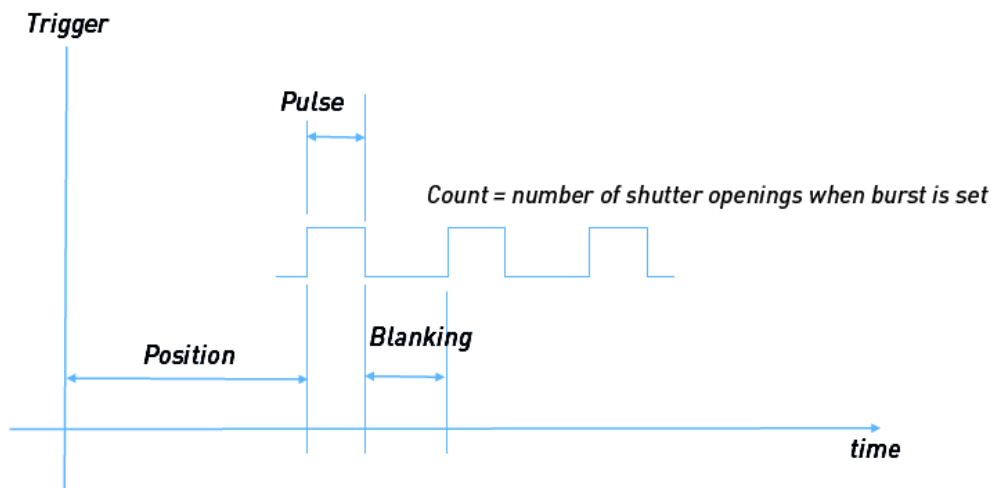All these settings deals with shutter configuration.

To get a detailed explanation of these parameters, have a look to "User Manual Ocam2 S -2000". Nevertheless a short explanation is provided below.

The use of the shutter at full rate needs the use of an additional shutter bias correction to fix the perturbation due to shutter opening and closing.

Shutter bias values are computed fully automatically. However some input parameters may have to be provided.
The shutter bias calibration is explained more in detail below.

3.4.2.1. Shutter settings

On/Off: Turns on/off the electronic shutter.
Internal/external: tells the camera to generate the shutter pulses internally or use external input.
Burst/single: The electronic shutter will fire multiple or single time per exposure (frame).
Sweep: The electronic shutter will enable/disable interval sweep at each exposure. There are two sweep modes. First mode is continuous sweep, the second is continuous sweep with external trigger.
Pulse Width: Sets the duration of the electronic shutter opening, in nanoseconds
Pulse Position: Sets the delay, in nanoseconds, between the frame trigger and the first pulse of the electronic shutter.
Shutter Blanking: Sets the duration of the blanking between two pulses, in nanoseconds. If the electronic shutter is in Single Pulse mode this setting has no effect.
Shutter Step: Sets the delay, in nanoseconds, that will be added to each frame's electronic shutter starting position when on sweep mode.
Shutter End: Sets the time limit, in nanoseconds, that will reset the sweep mode.
Pulse Count: Sets the number of sequential pulses to fire in burst mode.

Refresh button can be used to read again camera shutter settings.

Inhibit shutter during CCD readout: Tells the camera to block the shutter during the whole image readout, preventing any perturbation in the image.

Correct shutter bias: Tells the camera to enable/disable shutter bias correction

Highlight opening and Highlight closing button can be used to artificially set a high value on shutter opening and closing pixels. This feature is uses to get start of opening and closing po-

sition. These values are used for shutter bias correction. For normal usage you don't need to use these buttons.

Compute shutter bias : This button starts the automatic computation of shutter correction values.

3.4.2.2.   Bias shutter correction:

When the shutter is operated during readout, perturbations occur in the image.
For more detail (cf."User Manual Ocam2 S -2000"). The camera can fix these perturbations thanks to a specific shutter bias. But shutter bias values must be provided to the camera.
This software provide a way to compute these values and provide them to the camera.

Normally, you just have to put the camera at the required temperature and then press **Compute shutter bias button**. The software will compute the bias values and send them to the camera. Then to enable correction, activate **correct shutter bias** check-box.

Warning: If you change the camera operating temperature, you will have to press the button again because **the bias correction is very linked with the temperature**.

Advanced settings:

Normally, you don't have to use advanced settings since it is already done at factory.
However, in case the bias shutter correction doesn't work properly, you may have to check/update these settings.
When you press "**shutter bias button**", the software use settings provided in a configuration file 'shutterBiasSettings.txt' as input parameters. The file has been already filled with valid parameter at factory and bias shutter correction values are computed using these factory settings.
Now you may want to check these settings and update them if they seem not valid.

1- Put the camera in the dark.
2- Open the file shutterBiasSettings.txt. It is located at the root software installation directory.
3- On the software, starts the acquisition, check **correct shutter bias** and press **highlight opening** button.

Some of the pixels should seem over illuminated, these pixels are openings pixels. The most over illuminated pixels are the start of opening(shutter) pixels.
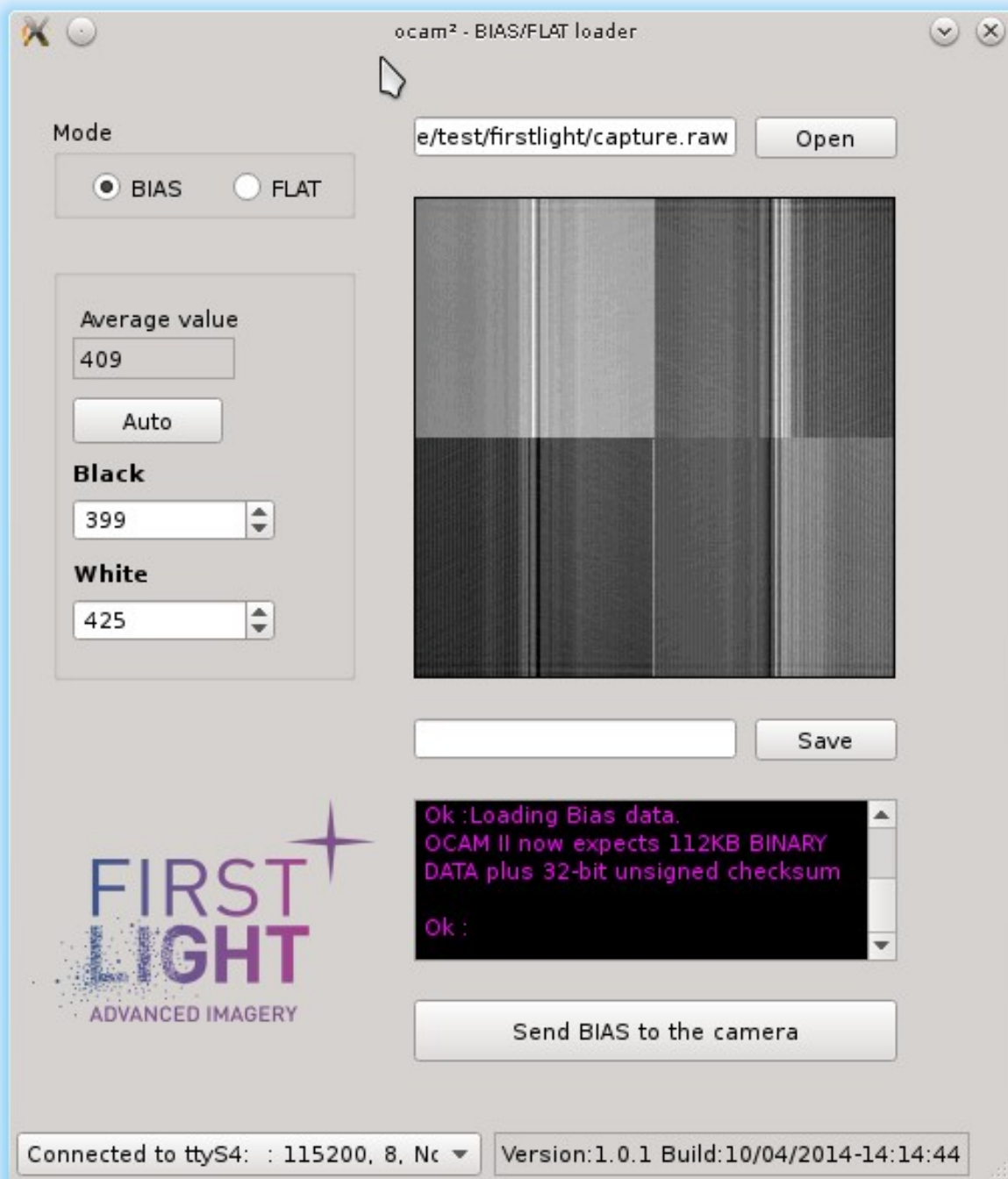You should see 8 start of opening pixels, one per amplifier.

4- Check that the opening pixels on the screen are the same than the ones in the file. Possibly update the configuration file with screen values.

5- Release **highlight opening** button and press **highlight closing** button.

6- Check that the closing pixels on the screen are the same than the ones in the file. Possibly update the configuration file with screen values.

If there are no difference between pixels on the screen and pixels in the configuration file and the bias shutter correction still doesn't work, you have to call firstlight support.
Else save the configuration file with the new settings, restart the ocam2 demonstration software and press again the **Compute shutter bias button**.
Enable **correct shutter bias** and check if the shutter bias correction works properly now.
If the there is still an issue, again call firstlight support.

3.5. GUI OCAM BIAS/FLAT loader

This software can be used to compute bias and flat image from raw file. The raw file is the one saved using the ocam2 demo gui software. Once computed, the frame is displayed on screen. White and Black point can but adjusted manually or automatically using **Black** and **white** spin-box or **auto** button. The displayed image average value is printed above these buttons.

Captured Raw images are loaded using **open** button. In addition to th raw image format, you can load directly a bias or a flat image. These format are raw also but contain only one precomputed image.

Note: The captured image raw format is a format where the frame number is written on 4 byes then the images as 57600 pixels (= 115200bytes), then the frame number, …
Pixels are written in little endian format.

Next, the displayed image can be sent to the camera using **Send Bias/FLAT to the camera** button.
You switch between bias or flat mode using top left radio button **BIAS/FLAT**

You can see camera feedback in the console. This console can be used too to send command to the camera.

Below, on the status bar, you can see 2 informations:
On the left, the serial port to which the software is connected.
On the right, the version number and build date.

Note: If you use together ocam2 Demo software and flat/bias loader,be careful, only one of them can be connected to the serial link at the same time.
You have to disconnect one to connect the other and conversely.

If needed you can also save the displayed bias or flat image in a file using **save** button.
By default, the extension will be .flat for flat image and .bias for bias image. These formats will contain only 57600(= 115200bytes)image pixels in little endian order.